**Important International Agencies, Institutions, and Fora- their Structure and Mandate, and**

**Bilateral, Regional, and Global Groupings and Agreements Involving India and/or affecting India’s interests**

**UNITED NATIONS**

***Structure and Mandate***

Established in 1945, succeeding League of Nations. India is a founding member

The UN is composed of 6 principal organs: All principal organs of UN (except ICJ @Hague) are HQed at Newyork. **South Sudan is the most recent entrant. 193 members.**

*Admission of new members-* 9/15 members of UNSC agree (no permanent member Vetos) and 2/3 majority of UNGA agrees.

Official languages- ACE FRS (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish)

1. ***General Assembly:*** (elects/appoints-who, voting by special majority (vote value), countries barred from voting, uniting for peace, nature of resolutions)

* All member nations have equal representation here (1 member 1 vote)
* Main deliberative organ of UN, oversees the budget of the United Nations,
* Elects the non-permanent members to UNSC, members of EcoSoc, judges of ICJ
* Appoints UN Secy General based on recommendation of UNSC
* 1950- Uniting for peace- UNGA can assume power of UNSC if it fails to maintain peace & security
* Voting on some questions (*peace and security, budget, admission, expulsion of members* etc.) is by a special 2/3rd majority; rest simple majority
* Palestine and Vatican city are 2 non-member observer states. Taiwan is not a member
* Assembly resolutions are not binding on members (simple majority)
* Members are required to make compulsory (based on economy size) and voluntary (to WHO etc)
* Recent developments-
  + UNGA held a first ever high-level meeting on “United to end Tuberculosis: an urgent global response to a global epidemic” – ensored by all member
  + Venezuela (economic crisis) and Libya (military action) have been suspended from voting due to unpaid dues

1. ***Security Council:*** (Election-permanent/ Non-permanent, resolutions (vote value), G4, Coffee club, recent resultions)

* Charged with the maintenance of international peace and security, defined by financial or troop contributions
* Powers include establishment of peacekeeping operations, international sanctions, military action authorization
* It can issue **binding resolutions** to member states (only UN agency to wield that power)
* Consists of 15 members; 5 permanent (USA, UK, Russia, China, France), and 10 non-permanent members elected on a regional basis for **two-year terms** (5 replaced every year)
  + Consecutive re-election not allowed
  + 5 Asia+Africa, 2, Central & Latin America, 1 East Europe, 2 W.Europe & others
  + All member have 1 vote and permanent members have veto.
  + Voting needed 9 out of 15 votes and non-veto by permanent members.
* Japan and Germany, the main defeated powers in WWII, are now the UN's second- and third-largest funders respectively, while Brazil and India are two of the largest contributors of troops to UN-mandated peace-keeping missions. Consequently, they all demand a seat at the table (G4 nations)
* However, the ‘uniting for consensus’ (coffee club- Italy, Pakistan, South Korea etc.- China not there) countries block the bids of these G4 countires
* Any reform in UNSC require concurrence of all permanent members and 2/3 majority of UNGA.
* Recent developments-
  + India currently not a member but recently got support of APAC 50 group
  + Resolution 2427: Child protection through out conflict cycle; saw unanimous support of all members

1. ***Economic and Social Council (EcoSoc):*** (Objective, election, bodies India’s not founding member, HQs not in Geneva)
   * Coordinates the 14 specialized agencies (mentioned below), their functional commissions, and 5 regional commissions.
   * Has **54 members**. Elects its members for 3 years by 2/3rd UNGA votes (India a member)
   * 5 India not a founding member- IMO, WMO, ITU, WIPO, UNIDO
   * 7 HQ not in Geneva- FAO (Rome), IFAD (Rome), UNESCO (Paris), IMO (UK), ICAO (Montreal), UNIDO (Vienna), UNWTO- Spain
2. ***International Court of Justice (ICJ):*** (election, 2 type of juridsction, recent devp)

* This is the primary judicial branch of the UN established in 1945, also called world court
* **15 Judges**, elected by **UNGA** and **UNSC** for **9 year** term (5 replaced every three years)

*<Details in IR current affairs>*

1. ***Trusteeship Council:*** Ceased functioning in 1994 after independence of palau, just exists on paper
2. ***Secretariat:*** Day to day admin and secretarial task

Aside from these, it encompasses 15 agencies, and several other programs and bodies:

* Specialized agencies (15): FAO, ILO, WHO, IMF, UNESCO, WB, IMF and others
* Related organizations: IAEA, CTBTO, WTO, OPCW (Chemical Weapons)
* Secretariats of Conventions: UNCCD (combat desertification), UNFCCC (climate change)

**World Bank- Initiatives**

* International Health Partnership (IHP+)- group of partners (WB, WHO etc.) to improve health of citizens
* Clean Air Initiative (CAI)- WB initiative to improve air quality by innovative ways by global partnership and knowledge sharing.
* Reports WB (7)- Doing Business Report, Global Economic Prospects, Global Financial Development Report, International Debt Statistics, World Development Report, World Development Indicators, Poverty and Shared Prosperity
* **Reports IMF** - World economic outlook, Global Financial stability report.

*WB (and group institutions), IMF, WTO covered with economics*

**International Labor Organization**

< All/only UN members are members?, tripartie members, mandate Chief Industrial Nation, Reports/Recent Initiative, 8 core convention ®, India ratification, nature of reco., India founding?>

* ILO is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2019. It was created in created in 1919 by the Versailles Peace Treaty. It became first specialized agency of UN.
* Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland. 187/197 UN members (and Cook island)
* ILO is the only tripartite U.N. agency, since 1919 that brings together governments, employers and workers of 187 member States, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.
* 1988- It adopted “Declaration on Fundamental Principles of Right to Work”
* Designates some member countries as nations of “chief Industrial importance” –US, UK, Japan, BRIC(not SA) nations etc.
* In order to understand and to respond effectively to new challenges, ILO launched a “Future of Work initiative” in order to advance its mandate for social justice.
* It publishes Global Wages Report and World Employment and Social Outlook
* ILO recommendations are **non-binding** in nature.
* 8 core ILO conventions- (fundamental/Human rights convention)
  + Forced Labour Convention **(No. 29),** Abolition of Forced Labour Convention **(No.105),**
  + Equal Remuneration Convention **(No.100),** Discrimination (Employment Occupation) Convention **(No.111),**
  + Recently India ratified 2 conventions- Minimum Age Convention (>age of schooling) **(No.138),** Worst forms of Child Labour Convention (trafficking, drugs etc.) **(No.182)**
  + 2 conventions not ratified by India- Freedom of **Association** and Protection of Right to Organised Convention **(No.87),** Right to **Organise** and Collective Bargaining Convention **(No.98)**

**India and ILO**

* India being a founding member has played an active role in every field of the organization.
* India has ratified 47 out of 189 ILO conventions during the century. (<50%)

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION**

<Creation, mandate, Secretariat, Codex Alimentarius Commission, IPPC, Globefish, India founding>

***Structure and Mandate***

* Established in 1945 with the objective of eliminating hunger and improving nutrition and standards of living by increasing agricultural productivity.
* Secretariat in Rome.
* **Codex Alimentarius Commission** established by FAO and WHO is an **international food standard** setting body. Recently by India’s effort , it adoped to standards for black, white and green pepper, cumin and thyme
* **International Plant Protection Convention-** protect cultivated and wild plants from pests
* **Globefish -** It is a unit within the FAO, monitors global fish trade
* **India and FAO**
  + India is founding member has played active role in every field of the organization.
  + FAO council approved India’s membership to the Executive Board of the World Food Program (WFP) for 2020 and 2021.
  + 2023 as International Year of Millets upon India’s request (India celebrated it in 2018)

**United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

<Creation, Secretariat, India founding, key missions and awards>

***Structure and Mandate***

* Est. in 1945 Secretariat in Paris, Has 195 members. USA and Israel left it (Palestine issue)
* **Key missions, reports, index**- World Heritage Mission, Global Education Monitoring report, Global Parity Index, Man And Biosphere pgm
* **India & UNESCO** 
  + India is a founding member
  + **UNESCO Creative Cities Network-** creativy as strategic factor for sustainable urban development. **Chennai** (added recently for music), **Jaipur** (crafts, folk art), **Varanasi** (music), **Hyderabad** (Gastronomy), **Mumbai** (Film city)
  + **World Heritage Sites-** Jaipur and Ahmedabad become these cities
  + **Asia Pacific Award for Cultural Heritage Conservation -** Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple in Tricurapalli, TN 2017.
  + **The LAMO Centre**, Ladakh won the Award of Distinction in 2018

**World Health Organization**

<Creation, HQ, India founding member, members, funding, recent conventions/reports, India & WHO>

***Structure and Mandate***

* Established in 1948. Its secretariat is in Geneva, Switzerland. Authority of directing and coordinating matters related to International health
* WHO has 194 member states: All UN members except for the Cook Islands and Niue.
* WHO is financed by contributions from member states and outside donors.
* World Health Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of WHO, attended by delegations from all member states.
  + Elects Director General of WHO
  + “Saving lives, Spending less” report for NCD in low and middle income countries and suggest Best Buys formula (spending on prevention) to prevent the diseases.
  + WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) is the first global health treaty negotiated under the auspices of the World Health Organization
* It has pledged triple billion goal for 2030- UHC to 1Bn more, Better prevention to 1 Bn, and better health and well- being to 1 Bn
  + UHC is communities have access to health services when and where they need w/o financial harships.
* WHO recognizes burn-out as a diseases under ICD-11 (only related work environments)
* **Publications of WHO**- World Health Report, World Health Statistics, Bulletin of the World Health Organization
* **India & WHO** 
  + India is a founding member of WHO. Became member in 1948
  + Soumya Swaminathan (ICMR DG) appointed WHO chief scientist

**International Maritime Organization**

<Creation, HQ, mandate, special pollution committee, India founding member, Categies, elections, , conventions)

***Structure and Mandate***

* Established in 1948. HQed in UK, responsibility for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution by ships.
* Maritime Environment Protection Committee- Prevention and control of marine pollution by ships.
* **Bunker convention- 2001-** Regarding oil spills
* **Ballast water management convention**- 2004- Ballast is water (i/c sediments, organisms) taken by ship to improve stability.
* **India & IMO** 
  + India is a not founding member of IMO. Became its member in 1959
  + India was re-elected as Member of its council for 2 years (18-19) as Category B country
  + Category A- shipping services, Cat B- maritime trade, Cat C- not in A/B- sea navigation
  + India has been elected to IMC ever since its functioning expect (1983-84)
  + India has not ratified any of the above conventions yet.

**World Metereological Organization**

<Creation, HQ, mandate, India membership, regional centres>

***Structure and Mandate***

* Established in 1950. HQed in Geneva,
* Provides forecasts and early warnings to nations, which help prevent and mitigate disasters.
* Monitors and forecast the transport of chemical and oil spills, forest fires, volcanic ash, haze and nuclear isotopes
* **India & WMO**
* India is member (WMO was founded earlier and later became a UN body- so India shouldn’t be a founding member)
* Climate Centre at Indian Meteorological Department, Pune recently recognized as WMO regional climate centre
* India made nodal for flash flooding forescast by WMO and will issue  Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand,

**Other UN specialized agencies**

**International Telecommunication Union**

* Established in 1865- HQ at Geneva-
* Allocates radio spectrum and orbits for outer space objects. Also standardization of ICT (**3GPP)**
* It also has membership of 700 private organizations too.
* India a member since 1952 (not a founding member), relected to council for 4 years (2019-22)
* ITU South Asia Area Office and Technology Innovation Centre in New Delhi
* Recently, as per ITU (2018), world crossed 50/50 milestone (50% world population using internet serviceS)

**International Civil Avaition Organization**

* Founded in 1971, HQed in Motreal, Canada (Post-UN org)
* standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency as well as for aviation environmental protection.
* Recently adopted CORSIA- Carbon Offsetting and Reporting Scheme for International Aviation- Apply only to international flights
* India is a member (not sure about founding status)

**World Intellectual Property Organization**

* Established in 1967 HQ in Geneva.
* promote the worldwide protection of both industrial property (inventions, trademarks, and designs) and copyrighted materials
* India became a member in 2013 ( non- founding member)
* India cabinet has approved accession to-
  + **Berne** (performers and producers of phonograms)- Indian govt. acceded to it
  + **Marrakesh treaty** (access to published works for blind, visually impaired, print disabled)
  + **Nice**- Trademarks and service marks
  + **Vienna classification**- classification of marks including figurative elements
  + **Lacarno agreement**- Industrial designs
  + **Stratusburg Agreement** (check India’s status) Used for patents and Utility models. Intenrational Patent Classification (!971) is based on this

**International Fund for Agricultural Development**

* International financial institution based in Rome, provides low interest loan to low income countries for agricultural and rural development
* Created in aftermath of The World Food Conference 1974” which was organized in response to the food crises of 1970s in Sahelian Countries

**United Nationas Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

* coordinating body central to the promotion of industrial development, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.
* Established in 1966. headquartered in Vienna, Austria
* India not a founding member

**United Nations World Tourism Organization**

* Promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism
* Established in 1975. HQ in Madrid, Spain.
* India is a founding member
* Suman Billa- Kerela tourism secy as UNWTO tech coop and silk road devlp

**Intenrational Migrants Organization (UN related body in 2016)**

* Relates to migrants related advice to govts. And migrants including internal migrants
* Establish in 1951, HQ at Geneva, Switzerland
* India is member

**UN funds and programmes**

UN Women, UN- Habitat skipped

**UNCTAD- Conference of Trade and Development** include (ITC TILE)

* Trade and Development Report,
* World Investment Report,
* The Least Developed Countries Report,
* World Economic Situation and Prospects,
* Information and Economy Report,
* Technology and Innovation Report,
* Commodities and Development Report.

UNDESA (Eco Soial Affairs)

* It also publishes World‘s Women Report once in 5 years, World Economic Situation & Prospects (along with UNCTAD), World Youth Report etc.

**World Food Programme**- Set up jointly by **UN and FAO in 1961**, it’s a UN humanitarian food programme, not under FAO. Strives to eradicate hunger and malnutrition

Coordinates Food for work programme (environ, economic, agri) and Purchase for progress. (motivating farmers to becaome part of agri markets)

**International Organization of Migration**

* UN observer but **not a UN body yet**
* Initially established in 1951 as the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration to help resettle people displaced by WWII
* India is a member
* Published the “**World Migration Report 2018**” in the IOM council held at Geneva.

**United Nations Human Right Council**

* Created by UNGA in 2006
* Comprised of 47 member states- council seats are allocated on riegional basis
* Members are elected by **secret ballot for 3 terms by absolute majority**(India a member currently, US pulled out in 2018)

**United Nations Environmental Protection (UNEP)**

* Leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda
* HQ - Nairobi, Kenya
* PM Modi- Champions on Earth award- ISA, Single use plastic-2022

**Reports –**

* Global Environment Outlook,
* Emission Gap Report,
* Actions on Air Quality
* Rise of Environmental Crime Report (along with INTERPOL)

**United Nations Convention for Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**

* International treaty which was adopted and signed in 1982
* Comprehensive treaty governing the use of oceanic resources
* Various **categorization under the UNCLOS-** Int. Tribunal for LOS, International Seabed authority (Resource exploration in high seas), Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.
* US not a member. India and China has ratified.
* 3 categorization
  + 12 nm- territorial water
  + 200 nm- EEZ- where country has exclusive rights on economic resources, though peaceful passage of foreign vehicles is allowed
  + 350 nm- Continental sheft- Exploit resources in sea bed/sub-soil (i.e oil, micro nodules etc.)
* Neeru Chadha- International Tribunal of Law of Sea

**United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

* ESCAP is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region.
* Established in 1947 with its headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand,
* ESCAP works to overcome some of the region’s greatest challenges by providing results-oriented projects, **technical assistance and capacity building** to member States
* India, founder member of UNESCAP, has been closely involved and played a prominent role in its deliberations from its initial years.

**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**

***Structure and Mandate (Read CA)***

**South Asian and Indian Ocean Organizations**

1. **SAARC- South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation** <Objective, creation, HQ, Members, Headed by, decision making>

* Objective- Welfare of people of South Asia, economic growth of region, territorial integrity
* Members- Pakistan, Afghanistan, Maldives, Srilanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, India
* Established by signing of SAARC charter in Dhaka, 1985.
* Its secretariat is in Kathmandu, Nepal
* Structure- SAARC summit is attended by heads of the state
* All decisions are taken based on unanimity (consensus). B/L issues are excluded from SAARC.

1. **Bhutan Bangladesh India Nepal (BBIN)**
   * It was launched after failure of conclusion of MVA at 18th SAARC summit due to Pakistan blockade.
   * Sub-regional BBIN MVA is intended to regulate vehicular traffic of passengers, personnel and cargo in all these countries.
2. **South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation**

* Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka (BBIN+MMS) - ADB serves as its secretariat.
* It is providing technical expertise for concusion of BBIN agreement

1. BIMSTEC-
   * BIMSTEC is a multi-lateral organization of bay of Bengal bordering countries (i/c Bhutan and Nepal) on economic and technical cooperation
   * Members: **Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan, and Nepa**l
   * **Founding members:** Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
   * Established in 1997 through **Bangkok Declaration**
   * **Secretariat** has been established at **Dhaka.**
2. *MGC (Mekong-Ganga Initiative):*

* India + South East Asian countries (Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam) Upper 5
* Formed in 2000. Recent 10th summit held at Bangkok, Thailand
* Closer contact b/w people of 2 civilization rivers
* Mekong passes through China + 5 SEA countries mentioned above

1. *BCIM (Bangladesh- China- India- Myanmar Forum for Regional Cooperation)* 
   * The BCIM economic corridor is an initiative conceptualised for significant gains through sub-regional economic cooperation
   * The multi-modal corridor will be the first expressway between India and China and will pass through Myanmar and Bangladesh
   * The proposed corridor will pass through: China’s Yunnan Province, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Bihar in Northern India through the combination of road, rail, water and air linkages in the region
   * This interconnectedness would facilitate the cross-border flow of people and goods, minimize overland trade obstacles, ensure greater market access and increase multilateral trade
   * India’s isolated north east stands to gain with greater cooperation with the other 3 countries
2. **INDIAN OCEAN RIM ASSOCIATION**
   * The IORA is a regional forum founded in 1995, tripartite in nature, bringing together representatives of **Government, Business and Academia**, for promoting co-operation and closer interaction among them
   * Organization has broadbased agenda- **Maritime security**, **trade** and investment facilitation, fisheries management, scientific and academic collaboration, **tourism** and cultural exchange, **Disaster risk** reduction, women empowerement, **Blue economy**
   * IORA’s apex body is the Council of Foreign Ministers (COM) which meets annually.
   * 22 member states- **India**, **Australia**, **Iran** IR, **Indonesia Thailand**, **Malaysia**, **South Africa**, Mozambique, **Kenya**, **Sri Lanka**, Tanzania, **Bangladesh**, **Singapore**, Mauritius, Madagascar, UAE, Yemen, Seychelles, Somalia, Comoros and Oman. Maldives recently became a member backed by India.( *Somalia, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Iraq, Pakistan, Myanmar are not members)*
   * **Global Renewable Energy Atlas** is the world’s largest-ever joint renewable resource data project.
3. **INDIAN OCEAN NAVAL SYMPOSIUM**
   * Recently **at Kochi** on theme- “**IONS as a Catalyst for SAGAR (**Security and Growth for All in the Region)
   * Voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of Indian Ocean Region.
   * **IONS inaugurated in 2008**
   * **Pakistan is also a member**

**South East Asia, West Asia, Central Asia**

1. **ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations)**

* Formed in 1967
* ASEAN seeks economic integration by creating an ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by end-2025 to establish a common market
* Since 2007, ASEAN countries have gradually lowered their import duties with member nations. The single market will ensure the free flow of goods, services, investment and skilled labour and the free flow of capital
* Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): FTA involving goods.. RCEP consists of all ten ASEAN countries plus 6 countries (China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, India, New Zealand), which have trade agreement with ASEAN countries.
* ***India and ASEAN***
  + History of **India ASEAN economic connect**
  + Strategic Partnership in 2012 was a natural progression to the ground covered since India became a Sectoral Partner of the ASEAN in 1992, Dialogue Partner in 1996 and Summit Level Partner in 2002
  + 2009, ASEAN-India FTA in 2009 (recently a review of same was initiated),
    - Status of ASEAN India exports have since been increasing; as of 2017-18, two-way trade between India & ASEAN stood at US$ 81.22 billion, surpassing the US$ 80 billion target (~10% of trade)
  + **ASEAN India Summit**- 16th in Bangkok- Economic, socio-cultural, political, security, connectivity cooperation
  + **ASEAN-INDIA Connectivity Summit -** It is being organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
  + **ADMM (ASEAN defense minister meeting);** ADMM+ ASEAN and its 8 observer partners on security and defense cooperation- India a member

1. **SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION**

* SCO is s a Eurasian political, economic and military organisation which was founded in 2001 with HQ in Beijing
* Shanghai 5 represents 5 countries that makes pre-cursor to SCO- China, Kashakhstan, Kyrgystan, Russia, Tajikistan in **1996**
* India a member since 2017 (Astana- (Kazakhstan) declaration), other 7 members being Shanghai 5 and Pakistan, Uzbekistan
* RATS- Established in 2002 under SCO- for counter **terrorism** activities, collecting **military intelligence** and **security**. Executive council is based in Tashkent (Uzbekistan)
* **Council of Head of States** is the top decision making body of SCO
* **Shaghai Spirit**- harmony, working by consensus, respect for other cultures, non-interference in the internal affairs of others, and non-alignment
* Official language- Chinese, Russian
* Recent meets/declaration
  + **SCO Qingdao (China)** meet/declaration
    - India coined SECURE strategy (Security of Citizens, Economic development of all, Connecting region, Uniting our people, Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, Environmental degradation)
    - Joint support for the Iranian nuclear deal
  + 19th Bishek (Kyrgystan) summit (SCO)- Health doctrine (healthcare cooperation, economic cooperation, alternate energy, literature and culture, terrorism-free society and humanitarian cooperation

1. **ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC)**

**APEC** is a forum for 21 Pacific Rim member economies that promotes free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region (Russia, China, USA, Japan, South Korea, Australia, NZ etc. but not all ASEAN countries)

* It was established in 1989 in response to the growing interdependence of Asia-Pacific economies and the advent of regional trade blocs in other parts of the world; to fears that highly industrialized Japan (a member of G8) would come to dominate economic activity in the Asia-Pacific region; and to establish new markets for agricultural products and raw materials beyond Europe
* India has **requested** membership in APEC, and received initial support from the United States, Japan and Australia. Officials have decided not to allow India to join for various reasons, one of which is that India does not border the Pacific Ocean, which all current members do, Protectionist approach
* However, India was invited to be an observer for the first time in November 2011
* APEC has long been at the forefront of reform efforts in the area of business facilitation. Between 2002 and 2006 the costs of business transactions across the region was reduced by 6%, thanks to the APEC Trade Facilitation Action Plan (TFAPI)
* India’s entry case- size of economy (40% of which is trade), political counter balance to China, New Indo-Pacific policy of USA:

1. **OIC (islam commission)**

* It is an international organization founded in 1969, consisting of 57 member states (second largest membership after UN), HQ at Jeddah, Suadi Arabia
* Turkey currently holds the chairmanship of the organization
* organisation works to safeguard the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony.
* India’s External Affairs minister recently attended it as guest of honour. India is neither a member nor has observer status due to Pakistan’s blockade (even though it has 2nd highest muslim population after Indonesia) and constitute highest diaspora in many W. Asian countries
* 46th session was 50th OIC meet and it adopted Abhu Dabhi declaration on **Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together”**
* **OIC official language- Arabic, English, French**

1. **BRICS**

* BRICS is a geopolitical grouping for increasing cooperation among 5 countries across 4 continents for equitable, sustainable and mutually beneficial development.
* Term was coined by JinO’Neil (Goldman Sachs) and the organization was formally made in 2006
* New )

1. **RIMES (Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warming System for Africa and Asia)**

* Established in 2009, evolved from the efforts of countries in Africa and Asia, in the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami
* 3rd ministerial meeting of RIMES in 2017, the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) inaugurated the Ocean Forecasting System for Comoros, Madagascar, and Mozambique
* Odisha government signed an MoU with RIMES for enhancing early warning system for effective management of disasters in the state
* **India is chairman of the body**

1. **TRANS PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP**

* This is a proposed regional regulatory and investment treaty between 12 countries: (USA, Canada, Mexico, Chile, Peru), Japan, Australia, New Zealand, (Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore, Vietnam)- China Russia South Korea are not a part of it

**Key Groups of countries**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grouping** | **Purpose** |
| G7 | **Intergovernmental organisation** that was formed in 1975. No formal constitution  Mandate- economic governance, international security, and energy policy.  Members- US, Canada, UK, Italy, Germany, France, Japan, Russia (expeled due to Crimean invation) |
| G20 | G-20 is a intergovernmental forum comprising of 19 countries (developed and major developing) and EU formed in the aftermath of East Asian Financial Crisis in 1999.  Membership  - Americas- USA, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina  - Europe- EU, UK, Germany, France, Italy  - Asia- Russia, China, India, Indonesia, Turkey, Suadi, Japan, S. Korea  - Others- South Africa, Australia  Structure  - Central bank governors, After 2008 crisis (Finance ministers, Head of state)  - India will host G-20 summit in 2022.  Its mandate  - Financial Stability  - Inclusive development  - Inter-related themes- health, digital, environment etc. |
| G77 | Loose coalition of developing countries at UN for better bargaining; now has 134 members, *not* 77 |

**Key financial instituions**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Founded in** | **Heaquarters** | **Total membership** | **India's status** | **Key objectives** |
| Asia Development Bank | 1966 | Manila, Philippines | 68 (15% US, Japan), ~ 6% (India, China, Australia)  Voting rights in proportion to contribution- Japan has highest share, | Founding member | **4 way of financing projects:**   * Public sector (sovereign financing) * Private sector (non-sovereign) * ADB funds and resource * Co-financing   **Publishes-** Asia Development Outlook, Asia Bond Monitor  Funding Mumbai Metro Rail Project  **2030 strategy** focuses on social and human development along with usual infra and private sector |
| Euorpean Central Bank | 1998 | Frankfurt, Germany | 19 of 28 EU countries | Not a member | Administers monetary policy of 19 Euro zone member states |
| Organization for Eco Coop & Devp (OECD) |  | Paris, France | 34 developed countries | Not a member but all BRICS countries are key partners | Promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. |
| New Development Bank | 2014 | Shanghai, China | 5 BRICS countries | Founding member | To monetize resources for infra and sustainable devp in BRICS and other emerging/developing economies  Recently funded private sector environmental projects in Brazil and South Africa |
| Contingent Reserve Arrangement |  |  | 5 BRICS country | Founding member | IMF of BRICS- (China has highest contribution) |
| Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank | 2016 | Beijing, China | 100 members (primarily Asia-Pacific)  Japan/US are not members | Founding member | Multilateral institution to provide financial support for infra and regional connectivity  Open to members of ADB and IRDB  China has highest shareholding followed by India |
| Asian Clearing Union | 1974 | Tehran, Iran | SAARC (- Afg +Iran+Burma) | Member | Initiative of UN Social Commission for APAC  It has Asian Monetary Units |
| ERDB | 1991 | London | US (largest stakeholders) | Member (2017) | Recently, ISA and EBRB signed pact for cooperation on energy projects |
| BIS |  | Basel, Swiz |  | Member | Bank of central banks |
| World Custom Organization |  | Brussels, Belgium | 80 members | Member | Independent intergovernmental body for improving customs effectiveness  India became regional representative as Vice-chair in its council  India represented by **Finance ministry** |

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| **Energy/Weapons Groupings** |

1. **INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY**

* IEA is a Paris-based autonomous intergovernmental organization established in 1974 in the wake of the 1973 oil crisis
* OECD membership is must for being a member; 8 associate members i/c India
* The top body is governace body comprising of energy ministers/ senior bureaucrats representatives
* 4 focus areas- Energy security, economic development, environment awareness, engagement worldwide
* The IEA acts as a policy adviser to its member states (30-mostly OECD), but also works with associate-member countries, especially China, India, and Russia
* Criticisms include the insinuation that that IEA reports are merely political documents, and that the IEA has had an institutional bias towards traditional energy sources and has been
* To become a member, a country must have **petroleum product reserves equivalent to 90 days of the previous year’s net imports**
* IEA publishes the **World Energy Outlook** (WEO) - COVE India Padharo Sapno k Desh

1. **ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES**
   * OPEC was formed at 1960 (Baghdad Conference) when the international oil market was largely dominated by a group of multinational companies known as the 'seven sisters'
   * It is an intergovernmental organisation whose stated objective is to “co-ordinate and unify petroleum policies among Member Countries, in order to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers
   * HQ at Vienna, Austria
   * AQUA VEIL SKIN [(Link)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlCml-e7Uhk) Also Equatorial Guinea (Ecador not a member now) (Russia not a member)
   * Published **World Oil Outlook**
2. **INTERNATIONAL ENERGY Forum**
   * Comprises not only on OPEC and IEA but all other common energy interest countries like India, China, Mexico
3. **INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

* Formed under UN by IAEA statue in 1957. Reports to the UNGA and the UNSC (although it is an independent body)
* India is a member. Its HQ is in Vienna, Austria
* The IAEA Board of Governors (which sets most of the policy) consists of 22 member states elected by the General Conference (163 states), and at least 10 member states nominated by the outgoing Board
* Seeks to promote peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to prohibit its use for any military purpose, including manufacturing of nuclear weapons
* The IAEA executes this mission with three main functions: **the inspection** of existing nuclear facilities to ensure their peaceful use, providing information and **developing standards** to ensure the safety and security of nuclear facilities, and as a hub for the various fields of science involved in the **peaceful applications of nuclear technology**
* IAEA has been criticized for its advocacy of nuclear power, and also for its sluggish response to the Fukushima disaster
* IAEA recommends safety standards, but member states are not required to comply; it promotes nuclear energy, but it also monitors nuclear use; it is the sole global organization overseeing the nuclear energy industry, yet it is also weighed down by **checking compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)** these contradictions make its work complicated and slow
* India has ratified an **additional protocol(AP) in 2014** with IAEA which means India’s 26 reactors (civil) are under IAEA safeguards and open for inspections

1. **NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS’ GROUP**

* NSG is a multinational body concerned with reducing nuclear proliferation by controlling the export and re-transfer of materials that may be applicable to nuclear weapon development and by improving safeguards and protection on existing materials
* **voluntary, non-legally binding export control regime**
* Originally called **London’s Group** and was **formed in response to the Indian nuclear tests in 1974**, when it was felt that the supply of nuclear materials needed to be curtailed further as non-weapon technology could be easily turned to weapons technology
* Listed items could only be exported to non-nuclear states if certain International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards were agreed to or if exceptional circumstances relating to safety existed
* After India U.S Civil Nuclear Agreement 2005, India has been trying to become a member. But its membership has been blocked by China
* **If India is accepted, it’ll be the only member country that hasn’t signed the NPT**
* Thus, **given that NSG waiver is already in place, India doesn’t stand to gain much from the membership**, but if it does get admitted, China might raise the din to include Pakistan as well

**Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage**

* The fund is to be made available by the Contracting Parties on the basis of their installed nuclear capacity and UN rate of assessment
* India had also passed its own domestic nuclear liability law, the Civil Law for Nuclear Damage (CLND) Act in 2010 which as per US is violative of CSC But India denies it

*Other country groupings to control trade in weapons are (India a member of all, china is of none)*

* *Wassenaar Arrangement: Armaments*
* *Australia Group: Chemical and Biological Weapons*
* *Missile Technology Control Regime, Hague Code of Conduct- Missile regime*
* **Chemical Weapons Convention**- Aims to eliminate entire category of weapons of mass destruction. Though chlorine is highly toxic, its peaceful purpose use has negated its official listing under convention. As a signatory India enacted Chemical weapons convnetions Act 2000.
* **UN Disarmament Commission:** Setup under UNGA, deliberative body consisting of all UN members for recommendation in fields of disarmament.
* **Conference of disarmament (CoD)**- India recognizes it as the single multilateral negotiation forum for disasrmament and discards all other.
* **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty-** a multilateral treaty that bans all nuclear explosions, for both civilian and military purposes, in all environments. India hasn’t signed it
* **Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty** The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted recently in the United Nations. It is the first multilateral legally-binding instrument for complete nuclear disarmament (Higher than NPT). India’s not part. It recognizes only CoD
* **Pelindaba Treaty**- African Nuclear feee Zone, Only South Sudan has not signed it.

**Europe Centric Groupings**

1. **European Union**

* **Established in 1993**
* **The Lisbon Treaty** now contains a clause under Article 50, providing for a member to leave the EU
* To become a member, a country must meet **Copenhagen criteria** (stable democracy etc.)
* **European Parliament** are directly elected voters in member states. Co-legislator with EC.
* EC is key political body of EU which comprises of head of member states and President of EP
* **European Economic Area**- EU+Norway+Leinchinstein+Iceland- Common market (free movement of labor, goods etc.)
* **European Free Trade Association**- It is a bloc comprising of non-EU four countries - Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. India **trying to negotiate BBTIA since 2008**
* **Asia Europe Meeting-** Exclusive Asia- European forum, 2 member organization- EU, ASEAN. India is a member

1. **World Economic Forum**

* This is a Swiss non-profit organization, and is best known for its annual winter meeting in Davos (in Switzerland)
* The meeting brings together some 2,500 top business leaders, international political leaders, selected intellectuals, and journalists to discuss the most pressing issues facing the world, including health and the environment
* **2020** theme: Stakeholders for a Cohesive and Sustainable World.
* Its reports- CG HIT h TERI (check where did you read it)

1. **Commonwealth of Nations**

* Current CW of Nations was formally created by London Declration in 1949. by Britain, to maintain close economic ties with its erstwhile colonies that were now rapidly becoming independent
* Consists of 53 countries today, including Mozambique and Rwanda, who were never colonies of Britain
* Not trade block/legal obligations, but an organization that aims to promote democracy, human rights, world peace etc.
* Commonwealth countries in theory do not consider each other ‘foreign’, and hence send ‘High Commissioners’ and not ‘Ambassadors’
* In non-commonwealth countries, commonwealth countries can seek assistance at the British embassy, in case their own country does not have consular services in that country
* On occasion, the commonwealth has suspended members for not maintaining democratic governments (eg. Maldives which recently joined back on India’s request)
* CW secretariat- Formal/Govt work, CW foundation- NGO/Non-gov work

1. **Financial Action Task Force**

* FATF is inter-governmental body established in **1989 (by G7)**to **combat money laundering, terrorist financing**;
* housed at OECD HQ in Paris; consists of thirty-six members (including India) and two regional organizations, the European Commission(EC) and the Persian Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC)
* FATF black list- Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories- **countries which are supporting terror funding and money laundering activities are listed in the Black list. IMF loan issues, economic sanctions etc. after a country comes in this list**
* FATF grey list- **Those countries which are considered as the safe heaven for supporting terror funding and money laundering; included in this list. Warning for countries that it might get into black list. Not legal action yet.**

1. **North Atlantic Treaty Alliance (NATO)**

* Military Alliance between 29 North American and European states formed by North Atlantic Treaty in 1949
* Under this a military attack on one country is seen as military attack on all.
* Each member state makes monetary and military contribution to NATO
* HQ at Brussels, Belgium

1. **Arctic Council**

* It is the **leading intergovernmental forum** discussing issues concerning **Arctic States i/c scientific research, peaceful & sustainable use of resources**
* **8 Arctic states** (US, Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Russia) **and 6 organizations representing local people of Arctic**
* **It is not a formalized treaty-based international legal entity** and does not allocate resources or prohibit commercial exploitation.
* All decisions based on consensus among states
* **India, China has been given observer status**

1. **Open Skies Treaty** 
   * The Treaty on Open Skies establishes a regime of **unarmed aerial observation flights** over the territories of its signatories.
   * **India, China not a member**. Spans from **US to Europe to Russia**
2. **TIR Convnetion**

* Transports Internationaux Routiers Convention is an international transit system under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
* India also ratified the convention
* It would enable India to move goods seamlessly along the **International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC)**

**Miscellaneous**

**India’s Law on Antarctica**

* **Minitry of Earth Sciences is drafting the law.**
* framed to ensure that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene of international conflict
* **India’s base Dakshin gangotri melted. New base Maitri is being made.**

**Hague Adoption Convention**

* It was adopted in 1993 to protect children and their families against the risks of illegal, irregular, premature or ill-prepared adoptions abroad
* Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is the nodal agency (statutory body under MoWCD) designated to deal with the provisions of this convention.